



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF **SPORT CLIMBING**
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OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

2016
THURSDAY
15TH
SEPTEMBER

IFSC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS PARIS 2016 DAY TWO: SEMI-FINALS SET

The second day of Qualifications were as exciting as the first, and many elite Athletes made the cut!

Women Bouldering: Japan Still Strong

Only weeks after securing the top spot in the National Team Ranking for the 2016 Bouldering World Cup, Japan continued their dominance in the first round of the IFSC World Championships. Akiyo Noguchi, who won Bronze at the 2014 IFSC Bouldering World Championships in Munich, and Miho Nonaka, runner-up of the 2016 season, topped the two Qualifications groups. Not far behind them was Melissa Le Neve of France, who placed third this season and finished third in Qualifications today, much to the delight of the weekday crowd in Paris.

Men Lead: Big Names, Many Tops

Eight Men fought the pump long enough to clip the chains of both Qualifications routes. 2014 world champion Adam Ondra looked strong again, even after competing in Bouldering yesterday, but he will have to contest with veterans Jakob Schubert of Austria and Sean McColl of Canada, who stood higher on the podium at the 2012 IFSC World Championships in Paris. Romain Desgranges should receive plenty of support in Semis on his home turf.

Paraclimbing : Confirming Places

Aika Yoshida fell just shy of Elodie Orbaen of Belgium and Oriane Moreno of France yesterday, but the Japanese Athlete was the only Woman in RP3 (limited range, power or stability) to latch the final hold in the second round of Qualifications. After multiple Tops on Wednesday, American Maureen Beck and Melinda Vigh of Hungary separated themselves from the field in Women AU-2 (forearm amputees). Lucie Jarrige of France was the only

Athlete in Women AL-2 (leg amputees) to stay perfect on Day Two.

For the Men, Matteo Stefani of Italy bested some very strong competitors in Men B-1 (visual impairment). Stefani placed third in 2012 and is on track for another medal this competition. In Men B-2, 2012 world champion Sho Aita of Japan continued to stand out, tallying his second Top of the week. Seven Athletes in Men AL-2 reached the Top yesterday, but Albert Guardia Ferrer and Iván Germán Pascual of Spain set the bar in the second round of Qualifications. Germany also made their presence known at the AccorHotels Arena, with Nils Helsper and Korbinian Franck scoring well again in Men RP1. Russian Vladimir Netsvetaev-Dolgalev took the lead in Men RP2, and Frenchmen Mathieu Besnard and Romain Pagnoux are tied for first in Men RP3.

Day Three: We Are LIVE

All four disciplines will be on display tomorrow, and the LIVE action begins with Men Bouldering Semi-Finals and Women Lead Semi-Finals at 7:00pm (GMT+2). Find Schedules, Starters, Results and more on the [Climbing](#) and [Paraclimbing](#) event pages.

More pictures will be added to the Flickr albums for Paris shortly and can be found here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ifscclimbing/albums>

Here is the Highlights video summarizing Day Two:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFmgGAQV0eQ>

Don't forget to interact with us on Twitter during the LIVE Streaming with the hashtag [#IFSCwch!](#)



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Pierre-Emmanuel DANGER, Press Officer, [systemd](http://systemd.com)
Mobile: +33 672230735 | Email: press@ifsc-climbing.org

Anne FUYNEL, Director of Marketing & Communications, IFSC
Mobile: +33 640469961 | Email: anne.fuynel@ifsc-climbing.org

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